



**Frederick County Sustainability Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes for**  
**1/18/17**



**FCSC Attendees:** Tom Anderson, Jennifer Bird, Annie Jones, Ron Kaltenbaugh, Joe Richardson, Kevin Sellner, Tim Jones, Rachel Armistead

**OSER:** Shannon Moore, Lisa

**Public:** Alyssia Feuer, Samantha Hogan, Bonnie Griesemer, Melissa Johnson, Peter Claggett, Alan Imhoff, Jerry Donald, Rich Maranto

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

- A. The Chair (Annie Jones) welcomed all FCSC members and guests with introductions by all.

**II. Vice Chair Items**

- A. Approval of December minutes.

1. Approval of December Minutes. Tim made a motion to accept the minutes, Ron seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by all.

- B. Review Action Items

1. Status of Solar Farm legislation and letter of support.
  - a. Public hearing is scheduled in two weeks. First reading was Tuesday the 17<sup>th</sup>.

- C. Discuss EEP and Indicator Workgroup meetings

1. Sustainable MD looking to do Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) workshop locally, Ron to follow up.
2. The Vice chair would like members to sign up for either the EEP or Sustainability Indicator workgroup.
3. Ron to discuss development of indicators at our next meeting.
4. Looking for members of the public to assist as volunteers.

### **III. Future Land Use and Population in Frederick County, Peter Clagett, USGS and the Chesapeake Bay Program**

#### **A. Characterizing Land Cover/Use Conditions, Present and Future**

1. Chesapeake Bay Office studies the entire bay watershed
2. The bay is a shallow body of water that is fertile and productive with good fish habitat.
3. Large land area to waterbody ratio. Heavy pollutants can do damage quickly.
4. Chesapeake Bay TMDL – amount of Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and sediment that the bay can receive while sustaining clarity, Dissolved Oxygen and Chlorophyll A levels that support living resources.
5. States and localities are working to implement best management practices (BMPs) for reducing nutrient and sediment loads.
6. Population trend from 1950 to 2010 shows steady growth in population.
7. Other trends looked at over time include housing density, local land use, and land cover.
8. 206 counties in, adjacent to, or intersecting the watershed.
9. Chesapeake Bay land uses include impervious/roads, forests, turf grass, and open space.
  - a. USGS used aerial imagery and remote sensing data to analyze land use.
  - b. Land use will be applied to the bay model to help determine TMDL loads.
10. Streams are being studied and located using LIDAR. Can determine width, depth, incision, and erosion. (USGS stream channel and floodplain metric toolbox v 1.3)
11. Urban growth – using LandSat imagery since the 1980s to interpret growth.
  - a. What effect will increased urban land cover have on pollution outputs?
  - b. USGS reviews new housing patterns, infill development, employment demand, and commercial development.
  - c. USGS maps out areas of potential development, eliminating previously developed and currently protected areas.
  - d. Conclusion: Increasing infill is the best way to reduce the future footprint of growth. Conserving prime farmland and large forest tracts ensure that the most valuable natural assets remain intact.

## B. Questions

1. Where we can get data on riparian buffers?
  - a. 70% of streams have at least a 30 foot buffer
2. Do large tracts of forests provide more benefit than several smaller tracts?
  - a. The best forests for the bay are riparian forests along stream corridors.
3. Previous versus new model loads, are there many changes in terms of projections?
  - a. Still studying the models. Would expect where development replaces farmland, pollution loads will go down. Where development replaced forests, pollution loads will go up.
4. Will we know where it would be best to leave wetlands that intercept pollutant load?
  - a. Can provide initial data that should be field checked.

## IV. Introduction from Potential Commission Members

### A. Melissa Johnson

1. Teacher in Centerville Elementary, lived in Fred Co for past 10 years, looking to volunteer, experience and interest in composting and gardening.

## V. OSER and Livable Frederick: EE Work Group Updates

### A. Electric vehicle funding

- VW settlement and Exelon merger providing funding; County applied through MCOG for funding for chargers and EV infrastructure
- Governor to release funding priorities for EV related items

### B. Solar coop meeting at library Jan 18

### C. New OSER staff to allow for new programs

### D. Construction on Delauter Road for brook trout restoration

### E. Hunting Creek stream restoration to protect brook trout

### F. Stream restoration and SWM improvements in Pt of Rocks to reduce flooding

## **VI. Commission Members Items of Interest**

- Kevin – Lake Anita Louise appears to be clear after treatment for algae
- Annie – SB for backyard gardening. Prohibits homeowners associations, municipality, etc from not allowing backyard gardening. Please review the bill and send thoughts to Annie.
- Ron – DC auto show Jan 27 to Feb 5 at the DC Convention Center, Ron’s EV group to have a booth. Ron interviewed by All Things Considered regarding EVs.
- Tim – MD clean energy center 2017 legislative session Feb 23 in Annapolis. Engaged in energy industries like solar and energy efficiency programs.
- Tom – Distributed article about recycling food that doesn’t meet retail standards.
- John – Climate adaptation report, providing exec summary for member review.
- Joe – DNR reviewing Joe’s property for stream restoration opportunities. Grant being applied for. Would like to use the restoration as an education opportunity for high school students.

## **VII. Public Comments**

- None

## **Action Items:**

8-18-16. Choose water quality/watershed indicators to help develop sustainability goals.

10-10-15. FCSC committees: Invite community volunteers to join.

10-8-15. County Green Teams: Ron has assembled a comprehensive list that includes municipalities with teams and contact information shown.

**Adjournment:** Following a motion, which was seconded and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.